

REMARKS

Claims 1-37 are pending in the application. Favorable examination in light of the remarks is respectfully requested.

The claims have been subjected to the following Restriction Requirement:

Group I: (claims 1-21, 34, and 37), and

Group II: (claims 22-33 and 35-36).

Applicants elect Group II (claims 22-33 and 35-36).

The claims have been subjected to the following requirement to select a specific primer pair for examination (paragraph 4). Applicants select as the primer pair SEQ ID No. 5 and SEQ ID No. 6. Furthermore, Applicants traverse the selection of a specific primer pair by further selecting primer pair SEQ ID No. 3 and SEQ ID No. 4. Applicants traverse based on the fact that searching the additional primer pair SEQ ID No. 3 and SEQ ID No. 4 is not an undue burden. In particular, the primer pair SEQ ID No. 5 and SEQ ID No. 6 have the same sequences as the primer pair SEQ ID No. 3 and SEQ ID No. 4, except SEQ ID No. 5 is three (3) bases longer at the 5' end than SEQ ID No. 3 and SEQ ID No. 6 is three (3) bases longer at the 5' end than SEQ ID No. 4.

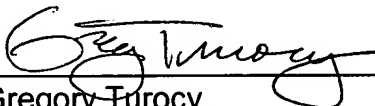
The claims have been subjected to a species election requirement (paragraph 6), where the Examiner lists species (a)-(m). Applicants elect with traverse the species ruminant. It is noted that claims 24 and 25 are covered by the ruminant species. It is noted that there are no claims directed to any of the specific species (a)-(m) noted by the Examiner. It is noted that ruminants cover (a) cattle, (b) sheep, (c) goat, and (d) deer.

Should the Examiner believe that a telephone interview would be helpful to expedite favorable prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

In the event any fees are due in connection with the filing of this document, the Commissioner is authorized to charge those fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-1063.

Respectfully submitted,

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